

Message Text

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14
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 /037 W
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R 310846Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9634
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, RP, UR, KS
SUBJECT: NO OPEN SKIES FOR AEROFLOT AND KOREAN AIRLINES

REF: 75 MANILA 12564 (NOT TO SEOUL)

1. MANILA PRESS HAS REPORTED PRESENCE OF AEROFLOT DELEGATION IN TOWN SEEKING GOP AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES TO MANILA FOR WHICH AEROFLOT HAS BEEN CAMPAIGNING DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS (SEE REFTEL). AEROFLOT HAS A RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE, BORIS KOLOTILSTCHIKOV, WHO HAS BEEN ASSISTED BY ROQUE ABLAN.

2. EMBOFF QUERIED PHILCAB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PACIFICO AGCAOILI REGARDING STATUS OF AEROFLOT REQUEST. IN AN OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO A REPORT THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS HIMSELF TURNED DOWN THE AEROFLOT REQUEST, AGCAOILI SAID THAT "THERE WAS NOT GREEN LIGHT FROM UPSTAIRS". HE ADDED LAUGHINLY THAT THE REQUEST WAS "IN THE HOPING STAGE", IMPLYING THAT IT WOULD REMAIN SO.

3. BESIDES THE AEROFLOT STORY, BUSINESS DAY CARRIED AUGUST 31 A LENGTHY ARTICLE REGARDING PHILCAB'S ORDER FOR KOREAN AIRLINES TO REDUCE ITS SEOUL/MANILA FRE-
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QUENCIES FROM FOUR TO THREE PER WEEK. THE ARTICLE

DISCUSSES THE BASIS OF PAL'S OBJECTIONS, THAT IS, KOREAN AIRLINES WAS REALLY CARRYING PASSENGERS TO JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES VIA SEOUL RATHER THAN THIRD AND FOURTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC PER SE.

4. AGCAOILI DOWNPLAYED THE DIVERSION OF TRAFFIC AS THE CAUSE FOR THE PHILCAB ORDER. HE SAID THAT PAL WANTED TO HAVE KAL CUT BACK TO TWO FLIGHTS, AND PHILCAB "COMPROMISED" AT THREE. IN THE MEANTIME, KAL HAS FILED A MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION, CITING THE PRESIDENT'S OPEN SKIES POLICY.

5. AGCAOILI ALSO INFORMED THAT PHILCAB HAD APPROVED AN AEROFLOT CHARTER TO MANILA ON SEPTEMBER 16 FOR THE CARRIAGE OF EXHIBIT MATERIALS FOR THE SOVIET EXHIBIT AT THE PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR. HE ALSO SAID THAT PHILCAB APPROVED A PANAM CHARTER FOR SEPTEMBER WHICH WOULD BRING IN THE EGYPTIAN EXHIBIT OF ANTIQUITIES FROM CAIRO.
SULLIVAN

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